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ABSTRACT

This document lists 39 selected initiatives to improve the quality of family child care. The initiatives include partnerships between family child care providers and provider associations, resource and referral agencies, corporations, community colleges, government, and public libraries. Included among the selected initiatives are (1) national projects; (2) statewide initiatives; (3) training projects; (4) mentoring programs; (5) networking organizations; (6) accreditation initiatives; (7) literacy projects; and (8) low income/ at-risk-focused programs. Most of the initiative descriptions detail the program components, locations where the initiative is being implemented, funding sources, and a contact name and address. A publication list includes a description of seven articles related to family child care. (KDFB)

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Selected Initiatives to Improve the Quality of Family Child Care

Compiled by Amy Dombro

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Other Families and Work Institute publications:

The Study of Children in Family Child Care and Relative Care: Highlights of Findings

The Changing Workforce: Highlights of the National Study

Getting Men Involved: Strategies for Early Childhood Programs

The Corporate Reference Guide to Work-Family Programs

Public-Private Partnerships for Child Care

Beyond the Parental Leave Debate: The Impact of Laws in Four States

The State Reference Guide to Work-Family Programs for State Employees

Parental Leave and Productivity

The Family-Friendly Employer: Examples from Europe

An Evaluation of Johnson & Johnson's Work-Family Initiative

Education Before School: Investing in Quality Child Care

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Selected Initiatives to Improve the Quality of Family Child Care

Across the country, family child care providers are working in partnership with provider associations, resource and referral agencies, corporations (large and small), community colleges, government, public libraries, and with colleagues to improve the quality of family child care. This list describes some of these initiatives beginning with the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC).

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR FAMILY CHILD CARE (NAFCC)

Program: The mission of the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) is to strengthen the profession of family child care through its accreditation process, leadership training, technical assistance, newsletter, and biannual conference. Beginning its eleventh year, NAFCC advocates for and serves local and state family child care associations across the country. A primary focus of the organization is to enhance quality by increasing resources available to providers through strong family child care associations.

Funding: Through the support of the Dayton Hudson Foundation and the Levi Strauss Foundation, NAFCC has developed a comprehensive, multi-year plan and related funding proposal to ensure NAFCC's future work in promoting quality family child care.

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NATIONAL PROJECTS

CHILD CARE AWARE/FAMILY-TO-FAMILY

Program: Beginning in 1988, Minneapolis-based Dayton Hudson in partnership with its Mervyn's, Target Stores, and Department Store Divisions began its pioneering efforts to enhance the quality of family child care in 40 communities across the country. Four key strategies were implemented: training, promoting accreditation, supporting provider associations, and local consumer education. In the past seven years, more than 11,000 providers have been recruited and trained. In this same time, 513 providers have been accredited, representing 85 percent of the total accredited across the country. Provider associations have been created and strengthened. Providers in Child Care Aware communities increasingly report seeing themselves as professionals committed to offering quality care. They are emerging as leaders in the ongoing work of improving quality by heading provider associations, training other providers, and often serving as advocates in their city and state legislatures.

Additionally, in 1992, Dayton Hudson launched a nationwide consumer education campaign to help parents recognize and find quality child care and thus create a demand for better quality. Using brochures, posters, newspaper and television advertisements, and a toll-free information line, the campaign has built on local consumer education efforts. The campaign offers a checklist to evaluate quality and links parents to local child care resource and referral agencies for assistance.

The communities researched in *The Study of Children in Family Child Care and Relative Care*—San Fernando/Los Angeles, California, Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas, and Charlotte, North Carolina—were chosen in part because they were Child Care Aware/Family-to-Family communities. A follow-up study is planned to explore the impact of training in those communities. In the meantime, here are some highlights of the Child Care Aware/Family-to-Family projects in these communities.

San Fernando/Los Angeles, California: In addition to recovering from January's earthquake, the San Fernando Child Care Aware/Family-to-Family site is currently facing the challenge of providing a next level of training and professional development opportunities for a growing group of the close to 300 providers who have completed Family-to-Family training in community college classes and want more training. The site is considering a new series of more

intensive classes. Also, staff and providers are building a bridge between the local AEYC (Association for the Education of Young Children) and the family child care association. As a result, there is now a family child care track at AEYC's conference and two statewide scholarships available to providers who want to attend.

Dallas\Fort Worth, Texas: The Child Care Aware/Family-to-Family site which covered the greater Dallas area pioneered an accreditation process which caused providers and parents to look at family child care as a profession. Many of the close to 300 providers who went through training and the more than 130 providers who went through The Partnership accreditation process reported they viewed their work differently as a result. As in other Child Care Aware/Family-to-Family communities, providers are seeking out additional training and have become advocates around family child care issues.

Charlotte, North Carolina: Charlotte's Child Care Aware/Family-to-Family ties all its provider services to training. With over 200 graduates of Child Care Aware/Family-to-Family classes, Charlotte too is finding providers eager for more advanced training. A ten hour course that focuses on topics including business practices and working with parents is now being offered. Additionally, a Family Child Care Certificate Program has been developed through collaboration with a community college. Providers receive 1 hour of college credit for their Child Care Aware/Family-to-Family training.

Chairman and CEO Kenneth A. Macke hopes Dayton Hudson's Child Care Aware Campaign will serve as a catalyst, setting an example for other corporations and communities on how to improve the quality of family child care. To this end, a guide book to replicating Child Care Aware/Family-to-Family is being written and will be available early in 1995.

Additional locations: Tucson, AZ; Bakersfield, CA; Livermore, CA; Oakland, CA; Fremont, CA; Oxnard, CA; Riverside, CA; Sacramento, CA; San Diego, CA; San Mateo, CA; San Fernando Valley and Santa Clarita, CA; Denver, CO; Delray Beach, FL; Atlanta, GA; Chicago, IL; Indianapolis, IN; Louisville, KY; Detroit and Lansing, MI; Charlotte, NC; Columbus, OH; Toledo, OH; Tulsa, OK; Portland, Medford, Albany and Salem, OR; Austin, TX; Dallas, TX; Houston, TX; Nashville, TN; Salt Lake City, UT; Seattle, WA; and Milwaukee, WI. Also, there are application sites in Santa Clara, CA; Phoenix, AZ; and Olympia, Everett, and Spokane, WA.

Funding: Dayton Hudson Foundation, Mervyn's, Target Stores, Marshall Field's, Dayton's and Hudson's have together contributed over $10 million dollars to this effort.

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AMERICAN BUSINESS COLLABORATION

Program: The American Business Collaboration for Quality Dependent Care is the largest collaboration of its kind. It consists of 146 businesses and public/private sector organizations who have committed over $26.4 million to fund a broad range of child and elder care programs in 44 communities in 25 states and the District of Columbia. Approximately 11 percent of this funding is targeted to projects designed to improve the quality of family child care. Funded projects include recruitment efforts, training and training vans, accreditation, and supporting the development of provider networks. The Collaboration is coordinated by Work/Family Directions.

In 1993, 329 projects were implemented, with over 16,125 spaces created or affected. Over 6,500 of these spaces were in family child care.

Each project is designed to meet the needs of the employees of the funding companies in that community. For example, in New York City, where children are often cared for by a nanny or neighbor, special activity kits were developed to encourage the caregivers to be actively involved with the children in their care.

In Kansas City, funds were provided to train family child care providers caring for collaborators' children. The training curriculum, developed by Work/Family Directions, focuses on the critical areas of quality from a parent's perspective, including health and safety, developing programs to meet the needs of working parents and adapting programs to maximize the learning opportunities for young children.

In Atlanta, the focus is on health and safety of children in home settings. Family child care providers as well as in-home caregivers, and relatives caring for young children can either participate in group or individual training. The training includes a video, checklist and accompanying notes which explain the rationale behind each item on the checklist. Parents are invited to attend the training with their caregiver. The video, checklist and notes may be sent to the provider for completing in their home, if they prefer.

Locations: Family child care projects have been funded in Phoenix, AZ; Los Angeles, CA; Orange County, CA; San Diego, CA; San Francisco, CA; Boulder, CO; Denver, CO; Washington, DC; Boca Raton/Fort Lauderdale, FL; Tampa, FL; Atlanta, GA; Evansville, IN; Chicago, IL; Kansas City, KS; New Jersey; Albany, NY; New York, NY; Rochester, NY; Westchester County, NY; Charlotte, NC; Raleigh Durham, NC; Dallas and Fort Worth, TX; Houston, TX; Richmond, VA; and Seattle, WA. Additional projects are planned for Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN and Jacksonville, FL.

Funding: The Collaboration is being spearheaded by eleven major U.S corporations: Allstate Insurance, Co., American Express, Amoco, AT&T, Eastman Kodak, Exxon, IBM, Johnson & Johnson, Motorola, The Travelers, and Xerox. An additional 135 businesses and organizations are funding one or more collaboration projects.

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ARMY FAMILY CHILD CARE PROGRAM

Program: There are more than 5,000 family child care homes on Army installations around the world. The providers are Army spouses who offer care in government housing units. To support the providers and promote high quality care, Army Child and Youth Services has implemented a cohesive, innovative system for training, support, and oversight. Wherever there are family child care providers, there is an education program specialist available to provide training. All training—for family child care providers and center-based staff—develops competencies based on Child Development Associate (CDA) functional areas. A detailed individualized training plan is developed for each provider. This plan serves as a career ladder that providers follow throughout their careers. It is comparable to the career ladder developed for center-based staff which means providers can move back and forth between child care systems based on their interests, needs, and available opportunities.

In addition, the Army is actively working to build bridges with the larger early childhood/ family child care community. At some installations, training for Army family child care providers is conducted jointly to civilian providers. And throughout the year, Child and Youth Services staff attend national child care conferences to share and to learn with colleagues.

Location: There are 158 Army installations around the world which offer on-post family child care to their families.

Funding: Appropriated funds and parent fees pay for this effort.

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TEACHING STRATEGIES, INC.

Program: Teaching Strategies, Inc. strives to enhance the quality of early childhood programs by producing practical, developmentally appropriate, and comprehensive products and services. Material developed for family child care providers include *The Creative Curriculum for Family Child Care* and most recently, *Caring for Children in Family Child Care*. Each of these has accompanying guides for trainers.

In addition, the Staff Development Network of Teaching Strategies offers training on implementing its curriculum and training programs.

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(202) 364-7273 FAX

WINDFLOWER ENTERPRISES

Program: Operated by three family child care veterans and a child/provider advocate, Windflower has created training curricula and authored advocacy publications addressing major issues of the field including compensation issues (*The Language of Money and Family Child Care)* and the relationship between providers and support agencies (*The Provider Connection)*. In

addition, this organization provides consulting and a wide variety of leadership, mentoring and other trainings to the family child care community. Windflower is committed to enhancing quality and promoting the growth of family child care as a profession.

Its central program, *Second Helping*, is an enrichment course for experienced family child care providers. The program is administered through the certification of provider-instructors who attend an intensive six-day Train-the-Trainer Course. Currently there are 220 certified instructors in 28 states and thousands of family child care providers across the country have graduated from the course.

Windflower also administers the *Master Provider Credential*, which recognizes experienced family child care providers who demonstrate a commitment to ongoing training and education. Windflower believes that education is the key to both quality and longevity. Qualifications include regulated experience, basic and advanced training, membership in professional associations and one of the following: Family Child Care CDA, NAFCC Accreditation or A.S. Degree in ECE or Child Development. Currently, there are over 100 providers in 12 states who have met the qualifications and the program continues to grow. Windflower has plans for a second level in the Master Provider Program.

The Windflower Institute publishes a quarterly newsletter, *The Garden*, which promotes the professional growth of family child care. The Institute also plans to conduct research projects in the field.

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NATIONAL FAMILY DAY CARE PROJECT

Program: Led by two former providers, this project of The Children's Foundation is building a national support network for providers, develops resources, and offers training tailored to meet the special needs of family child care providers, such as *Better Baby Care* and *Helping Children Love Themselves and Others*. This project offers information to parents and potential home-based providers. It publishes a bimonthly newsletter for the profession, conducts an annual review of

the family day care licensing regulations, and produces a *National Directory of Family Child Care Associations and Support Groups*.

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STATEWIDE INITIATIVES

CALIFORNIA CHILD CARE INITIATIVE

Program: Since 1985, the Initiative has evolved as a successful public-private partnership to increase the supply of licensed, quality child care throughout California. To date, 35 Resource and Referral Agencies in collaboration with community partners have recruited over 3,800 new family child care providers. Nearly 26,000 new and experienced providers have received training in managing a small business and offering safe, quality child care services. The long-term impact of the Initiative is demonstrated by the fact that 70 percent of the recruits were still in business one year after training. In 1994, the Initiative is taking on two new challenges: training new and experienced providers to provide quality care for infants and toddlers and recruiting and training Spanish-speaking family child care providers.

In 1990, programs modeled on the California Child Care Initiative were established in Michigan and Oregon with lead funding from the Ford Foundation and state governments.

Location: California

Funding: Designed and initiated by the BankAmerica Foundation and the California Child Care Resource and Referral Network, the partnership includes over 500 foundations, corporations, local businesses and public sector funders which have contributed $6.7 million to the statewide program since its inception. The State of California provides matching funds for all dollars raised by the Initiative on a 2:1 basis up to $250,000 per year. The Network manages both the funding partnership and the operation of the Initiative, and shares responsibility with its member agencies for all fund raising and program publicity.

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California Child Care Resource and Referral Network
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San Francisco, CA 94105
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(415) 882-6233 FAX

MICHIGAN CHILD CARE FUTURES PROJECT

Program: Established as a replication of the California Child Care Initiative, the Michigan Child Care Futures Project has developed into a public-private partnership which operates through the Michigan 4C's Network. The Project provides training for family child care providers as well as center-based staff. Additionally, the Project recruits new and existing providers to meet identified community needs for child care and offers support services to providers including scholarships for accreditation and for the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.

The project has provided comprehensive training to 4,600 providers and has recruited 2,600 providers.

Location: Michigan

Funding: The Project receives funding from the Michigan Department of Social Services, major foundations, and Michigan businesses. To date, the Project has raised $2,115,000.

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(517) 332-5763 FAX

MISSISSIPPI'S FAMILY CHILD CARE NETWORK

Program: Family child care in Mississippi has operated largely as informal care without benefit of any statewide organizational structure. Estimates suggest there are 25,000 providers caring for five or fewer children in their homes.

Although self-employment is a viable way to create jobs and achieve economic growth, family child care providers seldom think of themselves as either small business owners or early childhood educators. Developing the business of family child care is critical to economic efforts in Mississippi. The availability of accessible, affordable family child care removes a significant barrier to economic opportunity for low income and single parent families, particularly in rural areas where center-based care is unavailable, inaccessible, or unaffordable.

The family child care netWork was created in fall 1992 by the Mississippi Forum on Children and Families to help providers develop the vision of themselves as self-employed early childhood educators. The family child care netWork serves as a conduit of information and support services to providers—and through providers to the children and families they serve. It was launched with a campaign proclaiming, "This Good-bye is a Good Buy."

The development of the business of family child care has also been supported through the Forum's 21st Century School Project, a 30 school district satellite of Yale's family-centered school program. One district is successfully operating a family child care program within the structure of their school lunch program, and a second district will begin this process soon. Widespread implementation of this model will significantly affect both the nutrition of children and the economic well-being of the provider. Deposit Guaranty Bank, the state's largest bank, has worked with the Forum on the financing of family child care. DGB has funded the development of a workbook for providers to use in making loan applications.

Location: Mississippi

Funding: The Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation provided the Forum with funding for the program which, with additional resources, allowed the Forum to launch the family child care netWork.

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OREGON CHILD DEVELOPMENT FUND
Oregon Child Care Initiative

Program: Based on the model of the California Child Care Initiative, the Oregon Child Care Initiative evolved to become the Oregon Child Development Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation in 1992. Also in that year, the child care provider accreditation scholarship fund was established. As of December 31, 1993, OCDF/OCCI project sites recruited 2,700 child care providers and trained 3,100 providers who provide enhanced quality care for 15,000 Oregon children.

Location: Oregon

Funding: Corporate and foundation partners have contributed more that $850,000 to implement this initiative.

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RHODE ISLAND CHILD CARE TRAINING SYSTEM

Program: Working in collaboration with the child care community, Rhode Island has implemented a system to provide professional development opportunities to people working in child care homes and centers. A subcommittee of family child care providers has helped to design a variety of supports including "Getting to Know Family Day Care" workshops, support for accreditation, and a course to help providers get their CDA (Child Development Associate) credential.

Location: Rhode Island

Funding: Funding for the Training System comes from the Child Care and Development Block Grant, and the CDA Scholarship Funding.

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Project Manager
Rhode Island Child Care Training Systems
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Pawtucket, RI 02860
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(401) 727-2810 FAX

VERMONT MINI-GRANT PROGRAM

Program: The state of Vermont is working to enhance the quality of family child care by offering providers the opportunity to apply for and receive mini-grants which typically range from $100-$600. These grants are available in a variety of categories including facility and equipment improvement and training and accreditation. There is also a category called Special Project Grants which are typically awarded to collaborative efforts. A Special Project Grant was recently awarded to promote early literacy through a collaboration involving schools and family child care homes.

Location: Vermont

Funding: Funding for the Mini-Grant Program comes from the Child Care and Development Block Grant.

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Waterbury, VT 05670
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INITIATIVES TO ENHANCE QUALITY THROUGH TRAINING

CHILD CARE TRAINING SATELLITE PROJECT

Program: Training is broadcast via satellite once a year to Iowa's Cooperative Extension Services which maintain a network of providers. The broadcasts are also available to providers in other states belonging to the satellite system. A one-hour presentation is followed by a discussion with a live panel of experienced providers. Using a toll-free phone number, providers can call in and ask the experts questions. Afterwards, the Extension office contacts participants for follow-up. The broadcasts, which in 1992 reached over 800 providers, are very popular since many providers are unable or unwilling to travel long distances for training. As a result of the training, many communities have formed Family Child Care Associations.

The project is currently looking into the use of fiber optics to allow for interactive broadcasts.

Location: Iowa

Funding: Funding has come from the Iowa Extension Services, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (because the program was originally promoted as an energy saving initiative, eliminating the need to travel and thus saving gasoline) and the Child Care and Development Block Grant. The primary costs are the video development and postage and printing for marketing.

Contact
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GOLD SEAL OF EXCELLENCE

Program: Family child care providers who participate in training on key topics such as nutrition, CPR/first aid certification, and other areas of quality care and also participate in

professional associations or support groups, maintain compliance with licensing and participate in home visits are eligible to apply for the Gold Seal Award.

Location: Santa Clara County, CA

Funding: Funding for this project is provided by Work/Family Directions, on behalf of their corporate clients in the area.

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PROFESSIONAL & CAREER EDUCATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD (PACE)

Program: Honolulu Community College is completing a study to identify recommendations for effective content and strategies for delivery of training to Oahu's family child care providers. The project is now in the process of developing three different delivery models for family child care training that each include the opportunity for college credit. The models will be field tested in May.

Location: Honolulu, HI

Funding: Child Care and Development Block Grant funds supported the study. Additional funding is being sought for follow-through.

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Honolulu Community College
874 Dillingham Blvd.
Honolulu HI 96817
(808) 845-9294/2679

PROUD TO BE A PROFESSIONAL PROVIDER

Program: This initiative allows Bell Atlantic employees to nominate their child care provider for a variety of professional development opportunities. Through the Enhancement Kit program, nominated family child care providers can receive their choice of four professional

development packets. The packets include curriculum materials and child development and record keeping information for providers of infants, toddlers, preschoolers and school age children. Other Proud to be a Professional Provider activities allow family child care providers access to scholarships for Red Cross First Aid and Infant/Child CPR certification or to attend local and national conferences.

Location: Bell Atlantic Service Area (Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, and Washington, DC)

Funding: Bell Atlantic funds this project in conjunction with the CWA and IBEW unions.

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RAINBOWS OF GOLD, INC.

Program: Rainbows of Gold Enterprises, Inc. is organized to provide training and education to licensed family child care providers, parents, and children to strengthen the family and the child care community. The organization offers seminars and classes across the country on a wide variety of topics including effective business methods; leadership and board development; parenting skills; preventing anti-social behavior; and discouraging the use of drugs, alcohol and other substances. The training is done by currently operating family child care providers.

Location: San Diego, California

Funding: Rainbows of Gold is supported through fees paid by providers and contracting agencies.

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RESOURCEMOBILE, INC.

Program: Resourcemobile, Inc. is a pilot project aimed at providing licensed family child care providers access to training, support services and equipment in the convenience of their homes. Early childhood specialists staff two mobile units. They visit 70 family child care providers a month. Training is tailored to meet the specific needs of providers and the children they care for. In addition, Resourcemobile, Inc. offers each child in the family child care homes served the opportunity to select and keep three books a year to promote reading. The organization also supports the local providers' association, provides training workshops, and publishes a newsletter to promote networking and the exchange of ideas among providers.

Location: Dade County, Florida

Funding: Resourcemobile, Inc. is a public-private partnership. The Kiwanis Clubs of Dade County raised the funds to purchase the mobiles. They were customized and equipped through the joint efforts of The National Council of Jewish Women and the Junior League of Miami. Metro-Dade County staffs the Resourcemobiles with a driver and an experienced early childhood educator.

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INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE QUALITY THROUGH MENTORING

The focus on quality family child care has inspired the increase of mentoring across the country. Experienced providers typically give individualized, one-on-one attention to less-experienced providers. Mentoring can happen informally or be part of a formal program. As new providers benefit from the experience and knowledge of veterans, the veterans have the opportunity to explore a challenging new career path. Funds for these projects have come from a variety of sources including corporate sponsors such as Bell Atlantic, which funded the Infant Provider Mentoring Project, and the Child Care Development Block Grant. Below are the names of a few of these programs and contact people who can provide details about their work:

CALIFORNIA EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTOR PROGRAM

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275 Seventh Avenue
New York, NY 10001
(212) 929-7604
(212) 929-5785 FAX

INFANT PROVIDER MENTORING PROJECT

Contact
Sue Camp
Resource Development Manager
The Partnership Group
840 West Main Street
Lansdale, PA 19446
(800) 847-5437
(215) 362-6598 FAX

PROVIDER PARTNERS

Contact
Beth Pfalmer
Director
Work and Family Resource Center
Community College of Denver
1391 North Spear Blvd.
Suite 400
Denver, Colorado 80204
(303) 534-3789

INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE QUALITY THROUGH ASSOCIATIONS AND NETWORKS

BEST OF CARE

Program: Family child care providers actively participate in a series of individualized, in-home trainings. The training content is designed to meet the unique needs of each participant. An enhanced care specialist consults with the providers on issues of interest to them and the parents in the program. Topics might include child development, parent-provider communication, integrating special needs children, etc. Approximately 50 providers participate in the in-depth training annually. Providers caring for children whose parents work for the funding companies receive the training and visits at no charge.

Location: Somerset, Middlesex, Monmouth and Mercer Counties in New Jersey.

Funding: Work/Family Directions, on behalf of their corporate clients in New Jersey.

Contact
Melinda Green
The Child Care Connection, Inc.
2425 Pennington Road
Trenton, NJ 08638
(609) 737-9243

CHILD CARE UNLIMITED FAMILY DAY CARE NETWORK

Program: Developed under the auspices of Child Care Unlimited and the Migrant and Indian Coalition, the Family Day Care Network's goal is to provide culturally-consonant, quality family child care for migrant children and to help former migrants develop family day care homes as an occupation. To this end, the network offers training and has arranged with the local community college to offer Child Care Aware/Family-to-Family training sessions in Spanish.

Location: Medford, OR

Funding: The network is funded primarily through USDA reimbursements and administrative fees for the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Additional monies come from

Mervyn's Dayton Hudson, the Child Care and Development Block Grant through the Children's Service Division, and the Carpenter Foundation.

Contact
Jill Ramirez
Child Care Unlimited Family Day Care Network
1057 Court Street, Suite B
Medford, OR 97501
(503) 770-5893
(503) 776-1077 FAX

FAMILY CHILD CARE LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Program: Seventeen Family Child Care Association Presidents are attending training to enhance their leadership skills. Group dynamics, the adult learner, mentoring, fund raising, and communication and listening skills are among the topics addressed in this interactive training. During this training, association leaders have developed mission statements as well as strategies for managing their organizations and supporting members.

The results of this project will be presented by members of the NAFCC Board at the Save the Children Family Child Care Technical Assistance Conference in April, 1994. Association leaders in other communities may be eligible for funding if they are located in areas where U S WEST has significant employee populations.

Location: Salt Lake City, UT

Funding: This training is funded by U S WEST in conjunction with the CWA and IBEW unions.

Contact
Sue Camp
Resource Development Manager
The Partnership Group
840 West Main Street
Lansdale, PA 19446
(800) 847-5437
(215) 362-6598 FAX

MONDAY MORNING, INC.

Program: Monday Morning, Inc., a private for-profit organization, is a consultant to family child care providers. It offers training and support with business practices with no charge. The organization's goal is to help providers offer quality care and become successful and profitable small business owners.

Locations: Six Central New Jersey Counties. In addition there are five Monday Morning Moms franchises located in Colorado Springs, CO; Northern Cook County, IL; Lake and McHenry County, IL; Montgomery County, MD; and Albany, NY.

Funding: This organization is supported solely through the fees of parents whose children are cared for by Monday Morning, Inc. providers.

Contact
Sue Schmidt
Monday Morning, Inc.
276 White Oak Ridge Road
Bridgewater, NJ 08807-1532
(908) 526-8008

NEIGHBORHOOD CHILD CARE INITIATIVES PROJECT (NCCIP)

Program: NCCIP was initiated in 1986 under the auspices of Child Care Inc., a private, non-profit child care resource and referral agency, to expand the availability of quality family child care. The project has developed ten community-based family child care networks that offer technical assistance and support to providers. The NCCIP Family Day Care Training Institute includes training for trainers of family child care providers and introductory, advanced and in-service training for family and group family child care providers. The NCCIP has actively supported the provider association, Family Day Care Citywide. The project also serves as an information resource on family child care for policymakers and legislators in New York City.

Location: New York City

Funding: American Express and the Carnegie Corporation of New York are the major funders of NCCIP.

Contact

Cynthia Rowe
Director
Neighborhood Child Care Initiatives Project
Child Care, Inc.
275 Seventh Avenue
New York, NY 10001
(212) 929-7604
(212) 929-5785 (FAX)

INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE QUALITY THROUGH ACCREDITATION

FLYING COLORS

Program: Flying Colors was designed by DuPont to help family child care providers and centers be recognized for becoming accredited by NAFCC (National Association of Family Child Care) for family child care providers and by NAEYC (National Association of Education of Young Children) for centers. DuPont's goal is to promote quality care to meet the needs of its employees who need child care and at the same time, promote professionalism in the child care industry and educate parents and the general public about the value of accreditation. Family child care providers receive $1000 and centers receive $2000 to cover accreditation fees and the cost of necessary changes to increase the safety of their homes or centers. Any remaining money can be used by providers to buy supplies. To date, close to 117 family child care providers have been funded. Approximately 85 of these providers are now accredited.

Locations: The state of Delaware; Houston and Beaumont, TX; Richmond, VA; Troy, MI; Chester and Delaware Counties, PA; Ponca City, OK; Brevard and Cape Fear, NC; Southern New Jersey; and Erie and Niagara Counties, NY have received Flying Color funds.

Funding: DuPont earmarked $400,000 for Flying Colors through December 31, 1993.

Contact
Beverly Bove
DuPont Human Resources
N-12535
Wilmington, Delaware 19898
(302) 774-7349
(302) 773-1914 FAX

Across the country, other organizations are working to promote quality through the National Association of Family Child Care (NAFCC) accreditation, a national credential that recognizes providers' competence. Providers are assessed in the areas of indoor safety, health, nutrition, indoor play environment, outdoor play environment, professional responsibility, and interactions with children and families. Strategies to promote accreditation and quality include training and mentoring in which an accredited provider works with colleagues. In addition to enhancing quality, these efforts develop leadership in the field and offer providers opportunities for professional

development. These efforts are funded by a variety of sources including the Child Care and Development Block Grant, corporations, foundations, and fees charged to providers for training. Below are the names of a few of these programs and contact people who can provide details about their work:

FAMILY CHILD CARE ACCREDITATION LEADERSHIP FORUM

Contact
Yvonne Collins
First Texas Council of Camp Fire
2700 Meacham Blvd.
Ft. Worth, TX 76137
(817) 831-2111

FAMILY CHILD CARE PLUS (Promoting Leadership, Understanding, and Support)

Contact
Rhudine Poole
Bernadette Skelskey
Family Child Care PLUS
NOVA Southeastern University
1408 North Westshore Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33607
(813) 288-9447

GREATER MINNEAPOLIS DAY CARE ASSOCIATION ACCREDITATION PROJECT

Contact
Colleen Whitehead
GMDCA
1628 Elliot Ave. South
Minneapolis, MN 55404
(612) 341-1177

NAFCC and PLUS Accreditation

Contact
Lois Slade
Durham Day Care Council
119 Orange Street
Durham, NC 27701
(919) 688-8661

TEAM PROJECT (Training Evaluation Accreditation Mentoring)

Contact
Betty Cassidy
1630 Winthrope Drive
Newport News, VA 23602
(804) 874-6147
(804) 874-6325 FAX

INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE QUALITY THROUGH LITERACY

The purpose of these outreach programs is to promote reading among family child care providers and the parents and children they serve. A librarian visits providers homes and offers a story time that includes activities such as reading and acting out stories and fingerplays. The librarian leaves books for children to read and follow-up activities for providers and parents to do with children. Below are the names of two of these programs and contact people who can provide details about their work:

PROJECT ROAR (Reach Out and Read)

Contact
Maria Salvadore or Pamela Stovall
Washington DC Public Library
901 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 727-1151

READY, SET, GROW

Contact
Judi Hempel
Ready Set Grow
826 Slaters Lane
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 838-4599
(703) 838-4614 FAX

INITIATIVES WITH A LOW-INCOME/ AT RISK FOCUS

LA CASA DE PUERTO RICO

Program: La Casa de Puerto Rico, Inc.'s Hispanic Family Day Care Home Provider Association has served Hispanic family child care providers living in Greater Hartford since 1988. It is the only agency serving Hispanic women and men in Connecticut. The goal of the agency is to provide training and support services to make the process of becoming and remaining a provider more manageable for Hispanic women.

Location: Hartford, CT

Funding: Funds come from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.

Contact
Gladys Rivera
La Casa de Puerto Rico
48 Main Street
Hartford, CT 06106
(203) 522-7296

NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE TEEN PARENT CHILD CARE PROJECT

Program: This multi-faceted program has as its goals to provide quality child care for the children of teens, to enhance the professional growth of providers, and to encourage the young parents to think about their careers. In the Teen Parent Child Care Project, 15 licensed providers are each matched with a teen-age parent(s) and their child. Providers are supported by project staff to make an individualized plan for each teen and his/her family and are paid above-market rates for their participation. There are support groups for providers and teens. Providers and teens both attend the community college, tuition-free.

Location: Alexandria, VA

Funding: The project is funded by the City of Alexandria and through matching funds solicited by the college.

Contact
Eula Miller
Director
Alexandria Campus
Northern Virginia Community College
Social Science Division -- Room 273
3001 North Beauregard Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 845-6224
(703) 845-6186 FAX

WU YEE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL

Program: Wu Yee is a child care agency serving families in San Francisco with a special focus on Asian families. Wu Yee offers family child care providers training in Asian languages. It assists providers with licensing and start-up. In addition, the agency offers ongoing support with the goal of creating quality child care options for all families in San Francisco.

Location: San Francisco, CA

Funding: Federal Block Grant, Community Development Block Grant, and State Department of Education funds support the training offered by Wu Yee. Fund raising and donations provide supplemental resources.

Contact
Norman Yee
Wu Yee Resource and Referral
777 Stockton Street, Suite 202
San Francisco, CA 94108
(415) 391-8993

PUBLICATIONS

Listed below are publications that will be helpful in learning more about quality family child care:

ASSESSING THE QUALITY OF FAMILY CHILD CARE—A COMPARISON OF FIVE INSTRUMENTS

This handbook compares five ways to look at quality in family child care. It describes each instrument and compares them to others in ten content areas. Finally, it discusses several problems in assessing quality, and some ways that quality and education look different in homes compared to centers.

Contact
The Family Child Care Project
Wheelock College
200 The Riverway
Boston, MA 02215-4176
(617) 734-5200
(617) 734-7103 FAX

CHOOSING FAMILY CHILD CARE: A HANDBOOK FOR PARENTS

This twenty-page illustrated guide gives parents the information and confidence they need to identify high quality family child care. It also offers suggestions to help parents and children adjust to child care and establish good relations with their provider.

Contact
National Council of Jewish Women
53 West 23rd Street
New York, NY 10010
(212) 645-4048

DIRECTORY OF FAMILY DAY CARE PROGRAMS WITH A LOW-INCOME FOCUS

This guide, written by Mary Larner and Nina Chaudry of National Center for Children in Poverty, describes over 80 family day care programs (including Child Care Unlimited Family Day Care Network, La Casa de Puerto Rico, and Wu Yee Resource and Referral described above) that either assist providers who live in low-income communities or meet income

guidelines, or that organize family child care services for children from low-income families. It was written to enable interested policymakers and practitioners to identify people who may have relevant experiences or materials to share.

Contact
National Center for Children in Poverty
Columbia University
154 Haven Avenue
New York, NY 10032
(212) 927-8793
(212) 927-9162 FAX

FAMILY CHILD CARING

Organizations (but not individual providers) who serve the family child care field may receive a single copy of a free quarterly newsletter, *Family Child Caring*, that they may photocopy for family child care providers. To receive the quarterly newsletter, send your request on organization letterhead to Redleaf Press. Redleaf Press, a non-profit division of Resources for Child Caring, offers a free catalog of over 300 publications. Send your request to the address below.

Contact
Redleaf Press
450 N. Syndicate
Suite 5
St. Paul, MN 55104

THE PARTNERSHIP GUIDE: STRATEGIES FOR SUPPORTING FAMILY DAY CARE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

This 56-page guide provides "how-to" information for child care and other community-based organizations concerned with family child care. It includes information on networking, choosing, and designing a project, raising funds, and working with volunteers. It also contains case studies of the demonstration projects developed by the National Council of Jewish Women National Family Day Care Project (NFDCP).

Contact
National Council of Jewish Women
53 West 23rd Street
New York, NY 10010
(212) 645-4048

QUALITY CRITERIA FOR FAMILY CHILD CARE

Quality Criteria for Family Child Care has been developed to reflect the unique characteristics of family child care. This project, which was funded by the A.L. Mailman Family Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation of America, develops clear and comprehensive criteria that describe excellence in family child care in a form that meets the needs of providers, parents, trainers, regulatory agencies, and policymakers. The criteria are organized under eight categories: Provider-Parent Relationships; Provider-Child Relationships; Opportunities for Learning Through Daily Routines and Play; Safety; Health; Nutrition; Professionalism; and Business Management. These criteria are meant to be used as guidelines in a variety of family child care related efforts such as determining policy, establishing regulations, developing training materials, improving practices in programs, and designing quality measurement procedures.

Contact
Thelma Harms
Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center
University of North Carolina
300 NationsBank Plaza
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
(919) 962-7358
(919) 962-7328 FAX

READINGS IN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN FAMILY CHILD CARE—PROJECT-TO-PROJECT COMPILED, 1993

These articles, compiled from the newsletter of Family-to-Family, describe successful community efforts sponsored by Mervyn's and Target Stores to support the quality of community family child care.

Contact
The Family Child Care Project
Wheelock College
200 The Riverway
Boston, MA 02215-4176
(617) 734-5200
(617) 734-7103 FAX

END NOTE

The profession of family child care is developing at a rapid pace. As the profession continues growing, so will the number of programs to enhance quality. To help us update this publication, please send additional entries to:

Amy Dombro
Families and Work Institute
330 Seventh Avenue 14th Floor
New York, NY 10001
(212) 465-2044
(212) 465-8637 FAX